



AGENCY REPORT

for

Metro Nashville Arts Commission Meeting

September 17, 2015

Metro Office Building 2nd floor, Davidson Conference Room

800 2nd Avenue South, Nashville

Commissioners: Jane Alvis, Dr. Ruth Ross Edmonds, Laurie Eskin, Matt Fischer, Don Hardin, Clay Haynes, Larry Keeton, Meg MacFadyen, Joseph (Pepe) Presley, Stephanie Pruitt, Marielena Ramos, Paula Roberts, Hope Stringer, Santi Tefel, and Sherry West

Overall Action Items:

- THRIVE Program Awards
- FY17 Grants Program Changes
- Donated Artwork Guidelines

Improve the Creative Workforce

1. Programs

- Bellevue Library —In July, an additional concrete sidewalk was poured to provide more direct access to the artwork from the walking path and the parking lot. Repair work on the paver surround has been completed.
- Bike Racks Phase III—The PAC and Commission approved four of the five bike rack designs recommended by the selection panel. Due to concerns regarding feasibility, safety and artistic merit, *Together We Rise* was not approved. Staff is currently working toward finalizing contracts for approved artists.
- Civil Rights Public Art Project — Artist Walter Hood is finalizing photo selections and working with prototypes to determine concrete techniques for the final design of *Witness Walls*. Staff and artist are working with Parks staff to determine best use of available park space at the artwork site. Artwork fabrication/installation is expected to be in 2016. Walter Hood has accepted an invitation to speak at the 2015 TEDx Salon Creo event on October 24 at Belmont University. If his schedule permits, staff will plan a public meeting about *Witness Walls* while the artist is in Nashville.
- Community Centers (Madison Park and Smith Springs Park) – Staff are working closely with Park staff and design team to craft a plan for public art. One idea being considered is to combine \$80,000 playground budget with the \$70,000 Public Art budget for each center. Smith Springs site is more conducive to nature play and that the Madison site is super active and would be a very good site for playable public art. The conversation will continue over the next few months.
- KVB —Installation has begun with site drilling over the next 10 days with pole installation expected to begin the week of Sept. 14 through the end of the month. Once the poles are installed, lighting installation will tentatively begin on Oct. 1 and landscaping completed by the end of October.
- West Riverfront Park – Light Meander installation is completed. Staff is managing some vandalism/skateboarder issues. Staff is addressing with Metro police, additional signage and the artists are considering some design modifications.
- Maintenance of Public Art Collection —Staff is currently managing the process of getting bids on needed maintenance work such as cleaning and landscaping around some artworks.
- Metro Arts Grants —We trained 27 citizens as panelists, and 25 served on grant panels in May. 32% of the panelists represented people of color and 20 council districts were represented.
- Arts Build Communities Grant Program — 7 citizens served during the August 10 review panel meeting that determined \$25,160 in grants awards.
- THRIVE Micro-funding Program — One pre-approval proposal is being presented to the commission for funding consideration this month. An after work “talk-shop” event was held on Aug 26 to connect with artists about the program. A workshop is being held on Sept 16 for artists to learn more about community arts engagement. More webinars and informational sessions are being scheduled in the coming months.
- Artober Nashville – Serves as a platform for artists and organizations to present their work, collaborate and share best practices. On September 13, Rebecca presented a program to the Nashville Artist Guild.

2. Partnerships & Policies

- Artober Nashville —Monthly Artober Community Partner meetings offer professional training and development opportunities through special topic presentations. We currently have 489 subscribers to the Artober community partner email list.
- MNPS – As Pencil Partners for Hunter’s Lane High School International Baccalaureate Academy staff has scheduled a field trip with students to visit the civil rights reading room and to learn about witness walls for Tuesday, September 22, 2015. A small group of Hunters Lane students will also be volunteering with Metro at Celebrate Nashville on Saturday, October 3, 2015.

3. Tools

- National Endowment for the Arts—Staff received notice we have been awarded \$75,000 to create the THRIVE Learning Lab. Due to internal changes, Lipscomb will no longer be partner in this project. We are working to identify another project implementation partner and will negotiate grant changes with NEA in October.
- Metro Arts Grants – Staff has been providing feedback to applicants, hosting consultations with applicants, and distributing contracts to FY16 grantees. As of Monday, September 14, 2015, 75% of all Metro Arts FY16 contracts have been fully executed and Invoice 1 payment requests sent to Metro Payment Services.
- Arts Build Communities Grants – Staff is executing contracts and processing first invoices for the 14 organizations that were awarded grants in FY16. 7 of the 14 contracts have been fully executed and Invoice 1 payment requests sent to Metro Payment Services. The remaining 7 contracts will be complete by the end of September.
- Artist Directory—The Directory is a resource utilized by the creative class and consumers in the community. There are over 350 profiles in the directory.
- Arts Buzz – The monthly Arts Buzz e-newsletter informs artists and creatives about local, regional and national opportunities for calls, auditions, fellowships, jobs & more. There are currently 1,068 subscribers.

Increase Creative Participation

1. Programs

- Our Town —Staff has been working with artist Bryce McCloud to confirm Phase 2 event locations. Confirmed locations for the large stamp events include Cumberland Park on September 18th, Nashville Public Library October 16th & 17th and Oz Art Nashville December 7th-10th. In addition to these events the mobile *Our Town* gallery/interactive van will be at Celebrate Nashville Festival on October 3rd.
- Bonnaroo Works Fund Grant- Metro Arts received a \$4,000 grant which is being used to commission local writers, poets, song writers and sound artists to create sound or literary works inspired by Metro Arts Public Art collection or the Art in Public Places collection. The selected artists are Chance Chambers (poet), Sara Estes (creative writer), Christopher Farrell (composer/musician), Robbie Lynn Hunsinger (sound artist), William Moon (composer/musician) Catherine Moore (poet) and Joe Nolan (musician/song writer). The selected artists proposed works inspired by *Emergence*, *Needle and Thread*, *Light Meander*, *Liquid 615*, *On Air*, *Reflections* and *Tool Fire*. Staff is working with the selected artists and local partners to feature the newly created works during a number of public events in October.
- Metro Arts Grants —A total of \$4,235,524 in grant funds were requested by 53 nonprofit organizations in 83 grant applications for FY16 activities and operations. Of the 83 grant applications, 75 grants were awarded to 49 nonprofit organizations equaling \$1,905,468.

- Arts Build Communities —ABC grants provide support for arts projects that broaden access to arts experiences, address community quality of life issues through the arts, or enhance the sustainability of asset-based cultural enterprises. \$25,160 in grants were awarded to 14 nonprofit organizations in Davidson County.
- Artober Nashville – Currently there are over 200 events on the Artober site with more being added every day. NECAT will be airing special Artober programming all month long. Street team activation will occur at Frist Friday, Celebrate Nashville, First Friday Art Crawl, Musicians Corner, Nashville Print Crawl and Symphony Free Day of Music and our social media efforts are ramping up. For the second year, we will partner with TEDxNashville to present CREO, and evening event with artist talks and performances that will focus on the ideas of social justice and equity. Speakers include Bay Area public artist Walter Hood, PhD, (who is also the artist for *Witness Walls*, our public art piece honoring the civil rights movement), Memphis hip-hop artist and DJ Marco Pavé, Nashville in Harmony choral director, Don Schlosser and artist/author team Robin Paris and Tom Williams.
- THRIVE – provides artistic experiences to Nashvillians in their neighborhoods

2. Partnerships & Policies

- Racial Equity and Arts Leadership (REAL)—In partnership with Curb Center for Art, Enterprise & Public Policy the learning cadre that will launch on October 7. Graduate student Jyoti Gupta wrote a white paper compiling the result of the baseline research she conducted this summer. Cadre participants will be announced mid-September.
- Nashville Arts Magazine —Staff continues to work with Nashville Arts Magazine to include monthly columns on the public art collection, arts education, and community arts activities in Nashville. The October issue will feature articles about Artober Nashville and the future of the arts in Nashville.
- ULI— Staff is serving on the Urban Land Institute Urban Magnets and Young Leaders committee and working to integrate the arts into discussions about Nashville's growth and development. Staff is working with ULI leadership to conduct programs this fall focused on Building a Creative City and maker spaces.
- Nashville Convention Visitor's Corporation—Jen/Rebecca continue to engage in conversations with NCVV staff on how to better integrate arts scene into tools, online maps and visitor center education.
- Arts Build Communities – As a designated agency, staff continues to work with the TAC in administering the ABC grants program.
- Ayers Institute— The Witness Walls teacher cadre has concluded. All 6 lesson plans can be found on our web site. The teacher cadre and professional development day was funded by a grant from the Tennessee Arts Commission.
- Pencil Foundation—Metro Arts is pairing with Shimai Gallery to develop a teacher externship for teachers from Bellevue Middle School (art, band, orchestra). Program will result in project-based learning that engages students with public art.

3. Tools

- ExploreNashvilleArt.com Mobile site— Recent updates to the site include neighborhood-based gallery tours and several new murals have been added to Art in Public Places. Staff historian (Anne-Leslie) is doing some research and adding interesting info to the Art in Public Places artworks pages.
- Classroom Resources – Staff updated the [Metro Arts website](#) to include a full compilation of curriculum guides and teacher resources focused on public artworks.
- Arts Build Communities – Staff is in the process of processing contracts and first invoices for the 14 grants awarded for FY16.

Improve Creative Quality & Innovation

1. Programs

- Metro Arts Grants—Staff hosted two focus group meetings with grantees in July to solicit input and collect information concerning user experience, communication effectiveness and customer service. An executive summary was included in agency packets this month presenting the findings. Staff is working on a community investment framework to be developed over the next 18 months.
- THRIVE —Provides funding for artists to execute artistic vision through innovative projects that engage community and impact neighborhoods. The staff is exploring ways to expand the current scope of work and communities that THRIVE reaches.

2. Partnerships & Policies

- Culture Here Report is nearly finalized and we will publically announce with Chamber during Artober.
- The Artisan Manufacturing bill was approved on August 4. This bill improves upon zoning allowances for artisan manufacturing.
- Working with Metro Planning to identify national funding opportunities related to implementing NashvilleNext/Arts & Culture framework.

Operations

1. Staff Management and Development

- Jen is attending National Arts Executive Leadership Forum in Sundance, UT
- Rebecca will attend Grantmakers in the Arts Conference in Los Angeles in October.
- Mary Beth Ikard is working on outreach and event management part time through October.

2. Finance

3. Media

4. External Affairs

- Organizing local creative economy tours for the National League of Cities Convention being hosted in Nashville in 2015.
- Metro Arts is preparing a briefing document for both Metro Council members and new Mayor and will participate in new Council orientation on October 10.

5. Community Leadership

- Arts & Business Council Programming Advisory Committee - Rebecca
- ULI Urban Magnets-Caroline
- PAN Council-Caroline
- Curb Center Creative Catalyst - Rebecca
- Hunters Lane IB Academy Business Partner Council-Rebecca & Laurel
- FutureReady Nashville - Rebecca
- Nashville Film Television Transmedia Council – Jen/Rebecca
- Urban States Arts Federation Executive Board—Jen
- OZ Arts Advisory Council-Jen
- Vanderbilt Engineering Maker Spaces Committee--Jen
- Music Makes Us Advisory Council-Jen
- Leadership Tennessee-Jen
- Americans for the Arts Advisory Committee on Transforming America's Communities
- TEDxNashville-Jen/Rebecca
- 5th Avenue of the Arts - Rebecca

Financial Report

FY2016 Summary Report 9/14/2015

	Budget	Actual	Remaining	Notes
Metro Salaries	\$403,400	\$68,889	\$334,511	
Total Salaries	\$403,400	\$68,889	\$334,511	Includes COLA, Open Range and Step Increases. Increase of \$22,500 from FY15
Total Fringes	\$148,900	\$24,224	\$124,676	Decrease of \$2,700 from FY15
Total Operational	\$174,500	\$29,556	\$144,944	Increase of \$50,800 from FY15
Total Internal Services	\$33,300	\$610	\$32,690	Increase of \$900 from FY15
Total TAC MCI Grant (Operating)	\$65,500	\$0	\$65,500	Decrease of \$6,000 from FY15
Total TAC ABC Admin	\$4,440	\$0	\$4,440	No change in ABC Grant Award
Total TAC ABC Regrants	\$25,160	\$5,436	\$19,724	
Total Metro Arts Grant Contributions	\$1,910,200	\$840,598	\$1,069,602	Restored funding level, Increase of \$17,500 from FY15
TOTALS For FY2014	\$2,765,400	\$969,313	\$1,796,087	
	Accrued Balance	Actual	Remaining	Notes
Special Purpose Fund	\$73,235	\$1,366	\$71,869	Balance Includes \$10,000 5/3 Bank Sponsorship for FY16
	Accrued Balance	Actual	Remaining	Notes
Convention Fund	\$37,566	\$0	\$37,566	

Financial Report

Percent for Public Art Fund Report

9/14/2015

Revenues

Capital Spending Plan 2001	\$473,991
Capital Spending Plan 2002	\$413,319
Capital Spending Plan 2003	\$1,164,191
Capital Spending Plan 2005	\$487,367
Capital Spending Plan 2006	\$643,311
Capital Spending Plan 2007	\$1,253,687
Capital Spending Plan 2008	\$647,050
Capital Spending Plan 2009	\$1,267,300
MTA Bus Stop Credit for Twenty Eighth Avenue Connector	\$29,772
Capital Spending Plan 2011, 2013	\$2,568,500
Total Revenues	\$8,948,488

Total Expenditures	(\$5,301,286)
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Subtotal	\$3,647,202
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Encumbrances

Funds Assigned to Bellevue Library	(\$45,998)
Funds Assigned to Bike Racks, Phase 2	(\$7,976)
Funds Assigned to Bike Racks, Phase 3	(\$249,550)
Funds Assigned to Civil Rights Public Art Project	(\$119,838)
Funds Assigned to KVB	(\$540,175)
Funds Assigned to Madison Park Community Center	(\$98,000)
Funds Assigned to Our Town Project (Bryce McCloud)	(\$25,672)
Funds Assigned to Public Art Master Plan	(\$150,000)
Funds Assigned to Public Square - Civil Rights Project	(\$369,629)
Funds Assigned to Smith Springs Park	(\$98,000)
Funds Assigned to Southeast Area Library & Community Center	(\$49,465)
Funds Assigned to West Riverfront Park	(\$153,807)
Funds Assigned to Capital Maintenance	(\$50,000)
Funds Assigned to Staff Administration	(\$238,083)
Total Encumbrances	(\$2,196,191)

Total Available Funds	\$1,451,010
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Grant Dollars at Work – October 2015

For additional information see www.nowplayingnashville.com

Actors Bridge Ensemble	Basic Operating Support - \$13,250	<i>STAR WARS: A study group adventure</i>
Adventure Science Center	Arts Access Support - \$ 3,125	<i>Way Late Play Date: Harry Potter</i>
Belcourt Theatre	Basic Operating Support - \$ 130,500	<i>The Decline of Western Civilization</i>
Cheekwood	Basic Operating Support - \$ 118,183	<i>Cheekwood Harvest</i>
Country Music Hall of Fame	Basic Operating Support - \$ 129,000	<i>The Duke of Paducah: These Shoes are Killing Me</i>
Frist Center for the Visual Arts	Basic Operating Support - \$ 130,500	<i>Free Family Festival Day 10/18</i>
Global Education Center	Basic Operating Support - \$ 28,050	Global Education presents <i>Belly Dancing</i>
Humanities Tennessee	Basic Operating Support - \$ 30,000	<i>27th annual Southern Festival of Books</i>
Metro Nashville Chorus	Basic Operating Support - \$ 4,814	Metro Nashville Chorus presents <i>Lucky Day</i>
Music for Seniors	Basic Operating Support - \$ 9,750	<i>Rory Hoffman Instrumentalist Extraordinaire!</i>
Nashville Ballet	Basic Operating Support - \$ 129,000	<i>Dracula with Afternoon of a Faun and Satto</i>
Nashville Children's Theatre	Basic Operating Support - \$ 88,000	<i>Charlotte's Web</i>
Nashville Jazz Workshop	Basic Operating Support - \$ 49,925	<i>JAZZMANIA 2015</i>
Nashville Opera Association	Basic Operating Support - \$ 105,750	<i>Turandot</i>
Nashville Repertory Theatre	Basic Operating Support - \$ 68,000	<i>Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead</i>
Nashville Symphony	Basic Operating Support - \$ 118,183	<i>Last Comic Standing</i>
Tennessee Craft	Basic Operating Support - \$ 43,000	Tennessee Craft Week, Nashville Events
Tennessee Performing Arts Center	Basic Operating Support - \$ 127,500	<i>Cinderella</i>
Watkins College of Art, Design & Film	Basic Operating Support - \$ 118,183	<i>Handmade & Bound Nashville</i>

Media / Important Links

Nashville Post, July 2015, Metro Arts receives recognition,

https://www.nashvillepost.com/news/2015/7/30/on_the_move_30_july_2015

Nashville Post, July 2015, Metro Arts Joins National Pilot Program That Aims to Build Stronger Neighborhoods and Communities, <https://nashvilleartscritic.com/arts/metro-arts-pilot/>

Public Art

Channel 4 News, September 2, 2015, [Installation begins on Nashville's most expensive public art piece](#)

The Tennessean, June 24, 2015, [Cumberland River-inspired downtown Nashville sculpture installed](#)

Nashville Public Radio, June 23, 2015, [Nashville's Newest Sculpture Aims to Recapture Cumberland River's Old Glory.](#)

Community Arts/Engagement

Important Dates

Fri, Sept 25, 2015	10-11am	Artober Nashville Community Partner meeting
Sat, Oct 3, 2015	10am-5pm	Street Team at Celebrate Nashville
Sat, Oct 3, 2015	6pm-9pm	Street Team at First Saturday Art Crawl
Tues, Oct 6, 2015	Noon	Community Engagement & Government Affairs meeting
Thurs, Oct 8, 2015	1:30pm	Public Art Committee (PAC) meeting
Thurs, Oct 15, 2015	Noon	Metro Arts Commission meeting